

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A polarizer comprising: a polyvinyl alcohol polarizing element; and two protective films between which said polarizing element is held, wherein a moisture content of said polarizer is not higher than 3 % by weight.

2. A polarizer according to claim 1, wherein moisture permeability of each of said protective films is in a range of from 5 to 300 (g/cm<sup>2</sup>·24h) at 40°C x 90%R.H.

3. A polarizer according to claim 2, wherein each of said protective films is made of a resin selected from the group consisting of a polyester resin, a polyimide resin, a norbornene resin, and a polyolefin resin.

4. A method of producing a polarizer comprising a step of sticking two protective films to opposite surfaces of a polyvinyl alcohol polarizing element so that the polyvinyl alcohol polarizing element is held between said two protective films, wherein said two protective films are stuck under the condition that a moisture content of said polyvinyl alcohol polarizing element is adjusted to be not higher than 15 % by weight.

5. A method of producing a polarizer according to claim

4, wherein moisture permeability of each of said protective films is in a range of from 5 to 300 (g/cm<sup>2</sup>·24h) at 40°C x 90%R.H. .

6. A method of producing a polarizer according to claim 5, wherein each of said protective films is made of a resin selected from the group consisting of a polyester resin, a polyimide resin, a norbornene resin, and a polyolefin resin.